

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Restriction Requirement:

The claims have been divided into Groups as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-11, 18 and 19, drawn to alkyl acetal compounds and the process of preparing them.
Group II: Claims 12-17, drawn to lubricants containing dioxolanes (cyclic acetals).

Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-11, 18 and 19 (drawn to alkyl acetal compounds and the process of preparing them), for examination.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

Amendment:

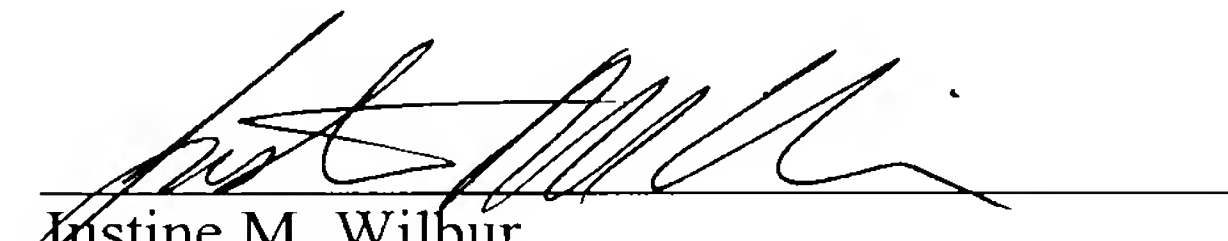
Claims 12-17, of non-elected Group II, are currently canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-11, 18 and 19 are maintained as filed in the Preliminary Amendment of August 24, 2006.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-11, 18 and 19 will be active.

No new matter has been entered.

Respectfully submitted,

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